

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-02 L-02 /055 W

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R 051743Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9387

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

US MISSION EC BRUSSELS 5916

UNCLAS ROME 1720

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, IT

SUBJECT: STRIKE DEVELOPMENTS

1. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ITALIAN HISTORY, JUDICIAL ACTIVITY HAS COME VIRTUALLY TO A HALT. MOST OF THE COUNTRY'S 8,000 MAGISTRATES ARE ON STRIKE FEBRUARY 5-6 IN RESPONSE TO A CALL BY THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MAGISTRATES. THE ISSUE IS BASICALLY ECONOMIC. THE DISPUTE, WHICH GOES BACK TO 1970, INVOLVES A DEMAND FOR HAVING AN IMPROVED ADJUSTMENT OF THEIR SALARIES TO THE UPPER LEVELS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE. PRIME MINISTER MORO HAS REMANDED THE SALARY MATTER TO PARLIAMENT FOR RESOLUTION.

2. THE STRIKE IS TAKING PLACE DESPITE THE OPEN DISAPPROVAL OF PRESIDENT LEONE AS WELL AS CRITICISM BY THE UNIONS. NO DOUBT, A COMPROMISE WILL BE FOUND, PROBABLY BY GRANTING SPECIAL SALARY INCREASES TO THE LOWEST-PAID MAGISTRATES.

3. MEANWHILE, CISL HAS CONCLUDED A SESSION OF ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WITH A RESOLUTION WHICH REAFFIRMS THE ADVISABILITY OF CONDUCTING GENERAL STRIKES, UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, UNCLASSIFIED

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"TO SUSTAIN THE STRATEGY (OF CISL) WITH RESPECT TO PUBLIC AND

PRIVATE INVESTMENTS, AND TO DEFEND JOBS AND WAGES." THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY A VOTE OF 21 TO ZERO WITH ONE ABSTENTION (REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CISL MINORITY WERE NOT PRESENT). THIS PLACES NATIONAL SECRETARY PIERRE CARNITI IN AN UNUSUAL POSITION, INASMUCH AS CARNITI HAD CALLED FOR THE RENUNCIATION OF THE GENERAL STRIKE MECHANISM WHICH HE TERMED "A USELESS WEAPON" AND "AN UNCONSTRUCTIVE SHOVE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT."

4. THE FEDERATION CGIL-CISL-UIL (CCU) HAS ANNOUNCED AN IMMINENT "DAY OF STRUGGLE" BY THE 250,000 COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY WORKERS AGAINST RUMORED INCREASES IN TELEPHONE FEES. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WAGES, LABOR STRIKES, JUDGES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18 APR 2003 by RuthemTJ>; APPROVED <22 JAN 2004 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** STRIKE DEVELOPMENTS  
**TAGS:** PINT, ELAB, IT  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006